



Office of the Attorney General
State of Texas

DAN MORALES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

November 19, 1998

Ms. M. Patrice Benford
Assistant City Attorney
Criminal Law and Police Division
City of Dallas
Municipal Building
Dallas, Texas 75201

OR98-2772

Dear Ms. Benford:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 119662.

The City of Dallas Police Department received a request for information relating to an incident investigated by the police. You seek to withhold the requested information under section 552.108 of the Government Code.

Section 552.108(a)(1) excepts from required public disclosure

(a) Information held by a law enforcement agency or prosecutor that deals with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime . . . if:

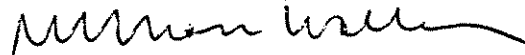
(1) release of the information would interfere with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime[.]

You indicate that the requested information relates to a pending criminal investigation. Based on your representations, we conclude that, except for "front page" information specifically made public in *Houston Chronicle Publ'g Co. v. City of Houston*, 531 S.W.2d 177 (Tex. Civ. App.--Houston [14th Dist.] 1975), *writ ref'd n.r.e. per curiam*, 536 S.W.2d 559 (Tex. 1976), which you must release, you may withhold the requested information at this time under section 552.108(a)(1). *See also* Gov't Code § 552.108(c) ("basic information" not excepted from disclosure by section 552.108).

We are resolving this matter with an informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. This ruling is limited to the particular records at issue

under the facts presented to us in this request and should not be relied upon as a previous determination regarding any other records. If you have questions about this ruling, please contact our office.

Yours very truly,



William Walker
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

WMW/ch

Ref: ID# 119662

Enclosures: Submitted documents

cc: Ms. Cynthia Winters
Byford & Schulman
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Dallas, Texas 75205
(w/o enclosures)